



Minarets High School
Student Course Outline and Expectations
Agriculture Mechanics



Instructor Contact Information:

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I. Course Description

Agricultural Mechanics is a program of courses created to develop in students understandings, appreciations, abilities, and skills which will prepare them for entrance into the labor market or into advanced education. Throughout the course of the year all students will be involved in hands-on activities that will allow them to increase their knowledge and skill in a variety of areas. The main goal of any mechanics course is to train students to work with and among others, around machinery, and with hand tools in safe and efficient manner. All students will partake in constructing a variety of projects, but those projects may be altered to fit the individuals interests, needs, or confidence/skill level.

II. Goals and Objectives

1. Develop good habits, attitudes, judgments, cooperation and the ability to get along with others in a work environment.
2. Create a desire for good workmanship, attention to detail, and job completion.
3. By good example, stimulate the student to keep an orderly shop.
4. Give students confidence in their abilities and skills in working with different tools.
5. Create a desire in students to seek additional skills and knowledge in a given area of interest.

III. Grading Scale

The following scale is used in this class:

A= 90% and above
B= 80% - 89%
C= 70% - 79%
D= 60% - 69%
F= 59% and below

Grades are **NOT** on a weighted point scale. All grades are determined on the basis of total points earned for the grading period.

IV. Cheating

Any student(s) caught cheating on a test or quiz, or copying any portions of assignments, or allowing other students to perform work for them, will receive a **ZERO** for that activity. They will **NOT** be able to make it up for partial credit nor will they be allowed to enter that project in the fair.

V. Make-Up Work

It is the **student's responsibility** to ask for any work or assignment that was missed. Some projects may be taken home to work on or students can work out a schedule with the teacher to make up projects after school. A reasonable time period will be permitted for make-up work for the following reasons when verified within one day of the student's return:

<i>Illness</i>	<i>Medical/Dental Appointment (name of doctor/clinic)</i>
<i>Quarantine</i>	<i>Funeral for family or friends</i>
<i>Athletic activities</i>	<i>School functions/field trips (if eligible to participate)</i>

****Of course situations arise - just make sure to check in with the teacher to make sure that everyone is on the same page.**

VI. FFA Activity

Being enrolled in any Agriculture course automatically enrolls all students as members of the Minarets FFA program. Every student will be expected to participate in at least three (3) FFA activities each semester, i.e., FFA meetings, community service activities, leadership conferences, public speaking events and judging contest. We encourage all students to become active members in the FFA program because no organization will offer the amount of opportunity in leadership and career preparation and growth than the FFA does.

VII. SAE Projects

By the end of the year every student will have a SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) project. This is a student created project tailored around individual interests, needs, and wants. It serves as another learning opportunity by increasing a student's level of responsibility, record keeping skills, while increasing his/her knowledge and skill in a chosen area. Students will have until January to design a SAE and are expected to have it up and running for most of the second semester. Parents, this can also be a great opportunity for your student to make some money while increasing their knowledge and skills.

X. Community Service

Every student is expected to participate in at least one community service project each semester. This is not limited to only activities through the FFA; students may perform community service with their church, youth groups, families, or organizations of his/her choice. But, by taking part in a FFA sponsored community service activity the student will be allowed to count it twice; once as a community service project and also as a FFA activity. Regardless, there will plenty of opportunities presented to students during the 2010-2011 school year. We encourage every student to take part in as many community service projects as possible. Doing so will not only to provide help for those in need in the short term, but it will allow growth as individuals in the long term.

IX. Extra Credit

Much like a license, extra credit is a privilege and not a right. Throughout the course of the year students will have many opportunities to obtain extra credit points to aide their final grades for the course. This should not be looked at as a band-aid or used as a crutch. Negotiation will not be apart of extra credit. Extra credit projects will be more detailed and involved than most would expect in order that they serve the purpose of increasing student understanding of content knowledge.

X. Points

Points are earned on the basis of assessments (quizzes/tests), projects (graded on workmanship and completion), presentations (both the visual and oral components will be scored), FFA activity, SAE, community service, and classroom/shop participation. **ALL** assignments will be submitted, however the highest score possible for **LATE WORK** will be **70%** of the originally assigned total.

XI. Course Outline

Here are the topics that will be covered throughout the course of the year:

1. Safety (shop, tool, and fire)
2. Measuring
3. Graphic communication / 3-D Modeling
4. Wood Construction
4. Irrigation
5. Tool ID
6. Concrete
7. Cold Metal
8. Torch Operation
9. Small Engine Maintenance
10. Rope Work

PLEASE SIGN AND HAVE YOUR PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGN THIS FORM AND RETURN IT!

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Signature of Student

Date